Budget for Prasar Bharti

†696. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the budget for the Prasar Bharati (Doordarshan and Akashvani) has been reduced from Rs. 480 crores to Rs.250 crores since last three years; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that two schemes of the Prasar Bharati have not been approved by the Centre and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) The details of Government's budgetary support to Prasar Bharati, both under Plan and Non-Plan, during the last 3 years are given below:

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Plan	Non-Plan	Total
2002-03	324.30	914.09	1238.39
2003-04	215.22	915.97	1131.19
2004-05	216.93	924.35	1141.28

(b) Approval of the various schemes of Prasar Bharati is a continuous and on-going process. As and when proposals are received, appropriate further action, depending on priorities and availability of financial resources is taken.

Modernisation of DD Kendras in Chhattisgarh

†697. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan for development and modernisation of Doordarshan Kendras in Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) Doordarshan Kendra at Raipur in Chhattisgarti has been partially digitalised during 2004-05. Additional studio facility is also being set-up at Raipur which is expected to be completed during 2005-06.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.